



PATENT
Customer No. 22,852
Attorney Docket No. 08513.7021-01-000

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
)
Towns et al.) Group Art Unit: 1712
)
Application No.: 10/090,474) Examiner: unknown
)
Filed: March 4, 2002)
)
For: POLYMER PREPARATION)

Handwritten: 10/10/02
10/10/02

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

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OCT - 8 2002
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SUPPLEMENTAL PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Please further amend the above application as follows:

In The Claims

Please rewrite claims 21, 22, 24, 25 and 27 as follows:

B¹
21. A process for coupling aromatic monomers, which comprises coupling in a reaction mixture an aromatic monomer having at least one boron-derivative functional group selected from the group consisting of a boronic acid group, a boronic ester group and a borane group, and an aromatic monomer having at least one reactive halide functional group; wherein the reaction mixture comprises a catalytic amount of a catalyst suitable for catalysing the coupling of the aromatic monomers, and an organic base including a tetraalkylammonium entity in an amount sufficient to convert the at least one boron-derivative functional group into $-BX_3^-$ anionic group(s), wherein X is independently selected from the group consisting of F and OH.

22. A process for coupling aromatic monomers, which comprises preparing under non-coupling conditions an organic cation salt of an aromatic boronate monomer

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